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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

INVENTOR: Francis A. Ambrovich et al.

EXAMINER: Zeinab El Arini

SERIAL NO.: 09/650,103

ART UNIT: 1746

FILING DATE: August 29, 2000

DATE: August 9, 2004

FOR: METHOD FOR SURFACE  
PREPARATION OF  
WORKPIECES UTILIZING  
FLUID SEPARATION  
TECHNIQUES

**AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 312**

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Notice of Allowance mailed August 27, 2004, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows: